

Application No.: 10/634,269
Amendment dated: October 19, 2006
Reply to Office Action dated: June 19, 2006

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REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1-32 are pending in the application. Claims 1-4, 10-13 and 19-32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by Detjens et al., hereinafter ("Detjens"), (US Pat. No. 6,704,163). Claims 5-9 and 14-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Detjens (US 6,704,163) in view of Cubero Pitel, (US Pat. No. 6,160,239). Claims 19 and 27 are amended to clarify aspects of the present invention.

Applicants respectfully submit the cited references do not teach, suggest or describe "[a] *first component having a first cavity to be coupled to an arm portion having an arm cavity via a pin element welded between said first component and said arm portion*, wherein said first component is selected from the group consisting of a head suspension portion and a flex cable portion (e.g., claim 1).

The Office Action asserts Detjens shows (citing Figures 1-4) a system for a magnetic head arm assembly comprising: a first component (20) having a first cavity (22) to be coupled to an arm portion (14) having an arm cavity (32) via a pin element (16) welded between said first component and said arm portion. *See* Office Action dated 6/19/2006, paragraph 3. Applicants disagree.

First, Applicants disagree with the Office Action's assertion that element 14 is the same as the "arm portion" and element 20 is the same as the "first component" as described in embodiments of the present application. However, even if Applicants were to assume *arguendo* these assertions in the Office Action were true, the current rejection would still be inadequate.

This is so because Figure 1 clearly shows the cited "tower[s]" 16 as extensions *protruding from* cited element 14. They are not inserted *through* element 14. These towers 16

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extending from cited element 14 are only *inserted* through cited element 20. Moreover, the cited towers 16 are not inserted through the cited "arm registering hole" 32 of element 14 either. Therefore, in sum, even if the cited element "towers" 16 are, as alleged, inserted through the alleged "first component" 20, they are not inserted through either the cited "arm registering hole 32" of the alleged "arm portion" 14, or any other portion of the alleged "arm portion" 14.

Claim 1 specifically describes an embodiment *wherein a pin element couples a first component having a first cavity and an arm portion having an arm cavity*. In order to support a proper rejection of claim 1, the cited reference must show at least these features. Detjens does not.

Cubero Pitel fails to make up for the deficiencies of Detjens. Cubero Pitel is directed toward a laser soldering procedure applicable to the joining of pins over printed circuit boards. However, it does not describe at least these relevant limitations of claim 1 anywhere.

Since at least these features of claim 1 are missing from the cited references, claim 1 is not anticipated under 35 U.S.C. §102(e). Independent claims 10, 19 and 27 contain similar allowable limitations. Claims 2-9, 11-18, 20-26, and 28-32 are allowable as depending from the allowable base claims 1, 10, 19 and 27. Based on the arguments above, reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection of claims 1-32 under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) are respectfully requested.

It is believed that this Amendment places the application in condition for allowance, and early favorable consideration of this Amendment is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

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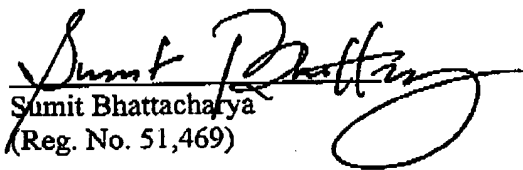
The Office is hereby authorized to charge any fees, or credit any overpayments, to
Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

KENYON & KENYON LLP

Dated: October 19, 2006

By:


Sumit Bhattacharya
(Reg. No. 51,469)

KENYON & KENYON LLP
333 West San Carlos St., Suite 600
San Jose, CA 95110

Telephone: (408) 975-7500
Facsimile: (408) 975-7501